ATLAS COMICS
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SAVAGE COMBAT TALES FEATURING
NO. 2 APR 43382
25c
SGT. STRYKER'S
TM
DEATH SQUAD
MY SQUAD'S GETTING CLOBBERED UPSTAIRS!
--AND IF THAT GRENADE EXPLODES--
--I'VE BOUGHT IT, TOO!
LIEBER

NORTH AFRICA, 1943! RIDING THE CREST OF THEIR VICTORY IN KASSERINE PASS, THE FORCES OF FIELD MARSHAL ROMMEL ADVANCE AGAINST NEWLY BLOODED AMERICAN TROOPS BUT HERE, IN THE RUINED VILLAGE OF SIDU RASHID, THEIR ATTACK HAS FALTERED BEFORE FIVE UNLIKELY FIGHTING MEN! FOUR AWAIT COURT MARTIALS; THE FIFTH STILL QUESTIONS THE RIGHT OF KILLING! FIVE UNLIKELY HEROES...A LEGEND STILL BEING SHAPED!

SGT. STRYKER'S DEATH SQUAD

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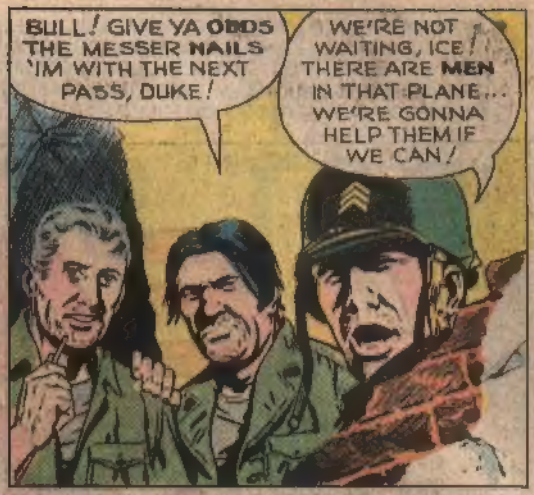


* SEE LAST ISSUE...EDITOR

...BUT IT WAS IN VAIN!
WOOOSH
BA-ROOM
SONUVAGUN! I THINK YOU GIVE THE SARGE A PEA-SHOOTER... HE'D BE A DEAD SHOT WITH THAT TOO!
ONE MENACE FALLS, BUT IN THE INFERNO THAT IS BATTLE, NEW DANGERS RISE LIKE THE PHOENIX! WHAT AWAITS ACTING SERGEANT BEN STRYKER AND HIS RELUCTANT WARRIORS IS NOT RESPITE, BUT A JOURNEY...AND THAT JOURNEY IS DESTINED TO BECOME A.....
HELLRIDE!
U.S.
3

BUT BEFORE THAT JOURNEY CAN BEGIN, THERE ARE OTHER PASSENGERS TO BE GATHERED!

UH, UH! LOOKS LIKE WE TAGGED THAT MESSER A LITTLE LATE!

THEY'RE DOWN IN ONE PIECE..... SOMEONE COULD STILL BE ALIVE... C'MON!

CRASH!

DON'T GAPE, BOY... ONE-STAR GENERALS AREN'T THAT RARE! THAT'S WHY I MEAN TO ADD THREE MORE BEFORE THIS WAR'S OVER!

PILOT'S DEAD! BUT MY AIDE, CAPT. ORDWAY ISN'T!... FISH HIM OUT!

SIR... YOU'RE GENERAL WRIGHT! "WILD BILL" WRIGHT, COMMANDER OF THIS SECTOR!

!..RIGHT, BOY! AND I AIM TO STAY COMMANDER BY KICKIN' THE *O! KRAUTS OUT!

GOT ENOUGH OF THE BIG PICTURE FROM THIS RECON MISSION TO SEE HOW TO DO IT... BUT THAT DON'T MEAN SPIT IF I CAN'T GET BACK TO HEAD-QUARTERS!

THERE'S A BRITISH UNIT THAT MIGHT BE CLOSER, SIR... WE COULD...

LET MY INFO GIVE THE **** LIMEYS THE JUMP? THEY ALREADY THINK THEY RUN THIS SHOW, BOY...

NOSIREE! WE'RE MOVIN' HELL-FOR-LEATHER FOR MY HEADQUARTERS! IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY VEHICLES, THERE'S A WRECKED COLUMN TO THE NORTH... WE'LL FIND SOMETHING!

MEANWHILE...

LUCK PLAYS ITS PART IN WAR, EH, HOLZER? WE OVERHEAR AN AIRPLANE'S RADIO, AND FIND AN AMERICAN GENERAL DROPPED ALMOST IN OUR HANDS!

BUT THE MARK OF A GREAT WARRIOR IS NOT HIS LUCK... BUT HIS ABILITY TO CAPITALIZE ON IT!

Y-YOU WILL GO AFTER THIS GENERAL WRIGHT, CAPTAIN DEITRICH? ALREADY WE ARE OVEREXTENDED INTO ENEMY TERRITORY! THE RISK...

...IS OFFSET BY THE PRIZE, SGT. HOLZER...

...AND I HAVE CHOSEN THE PERFECT SPOT TO INTERCEPT HIM!

BEING AN AGRESSIVE COMMANDER WITH IMPORTANT RECONNAISSANCE INFORMATION, WRIGHT WILL STRIKE OUT FOR HIS OWN COMMAND RATHER THAN AWAIT RESCUE OR SEEK ALLIED HELP!

SO, TWO GROUPS BEGIN MOVING ON A COLLISION COURSE...BUT ONE MOVES IN IGNORANCE, BLINDED BY OTHER CONCERNS...

WHAT'S GOT YOUR FEATHERS RUFFLED, ORDWAY?

SIR, YOU COULDN'T KNOW WHOM WE'VE THROWN IN WITH... BUT I DO...AND I DON'T LIKE IT!...

I'VE SEEN PROVOST MARSHAL'S REPORTS THAT COME TO US... THESE MEN ARE DANGEROUS MISFITS!

"THE MAN, SHIGETA, IS A JUDO EXPERT! HE ATTACKED HIS COMMANDING OFFICER...NEARLY KILLED HIM!"

"DUKE RIPLEY IS A FORMER CIRCUS ACROBAT...NOW HE'S A DESERTER!"

"THIS ONE-TIME WRESTLER, TURK ANTRUM, WENT BERSERK IN A BAR-ROOM BRAWL... KILLED A PARA-TROOPER!"

"ICE MARCO CHOSE THE ARMY OVER PRISON...AND TURNED HIS TALENTS TO THE BLACK MARKET THE MOMENT HE ARRIVED OVER-SEAS!"

AND, BY HIS OWN ADMISSION, THIS MAN STRYKER ISN'T REALLY A SERGEANT... HE SIMPLY TOOK OVER WHEN EVERYONE ELSE FELL!

@#$%/¢ CAPTAIN! THAT'S HOW I *BECAME* AN OFFICER! AND IF HE GOT THOSE *FOUL-UPS* TO DEFEND A VILLAGE, HE *DESERVES* STRIPES!

THIS MUST BE WHAT YOU SAW FROM THE AIR...PRETTY GRIM FOR A MOTOR POOL!

SOMETHING WILL WORK... AND IF YOUR COLLECTION OF CONVICTS NEEDS A LITTLE INCENTIVE...

LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THE SOONER I'M AT HQ, THE SOONER I CAN SIGN SOME PARDONS!

SONUVAGUN...YOU HEAR THAT? IF THIS ONE'S GOT ALL ITS WHEELS, I'LL PUSH 'IM THERE!

SAVE IT, MUSCLE-HEAD... GET THE BRASS HATS ABOARD!.. I'LL SHOW 'EM SOME OF MY GET-AWAY DRIVIN' TECHNIQUES

WITH A FEW ALTERATIONS, THE STRANGE CARAVAN IS MOBILE!

WE GOT GAS OUT THE NOSE, BUT NOT WATER!..THIS BABY'S RADIATOR LEAKS!

MAP SHOWS AN OASIS, ICE... NOT TOO FAR!

AN OASIS THAT IS ON OTHER MAPS...AND IN OTHER PLANS!

GOTT! SOMETHING APPROACHES, CAPTAIN DEITRICH! COULD IT BE...

SHOW SOME FAITH, HOLZER...OF COURSE IT'S WRIGHT!...

REMEMBER, I PREFER TO TAKE HIM ALIVE!

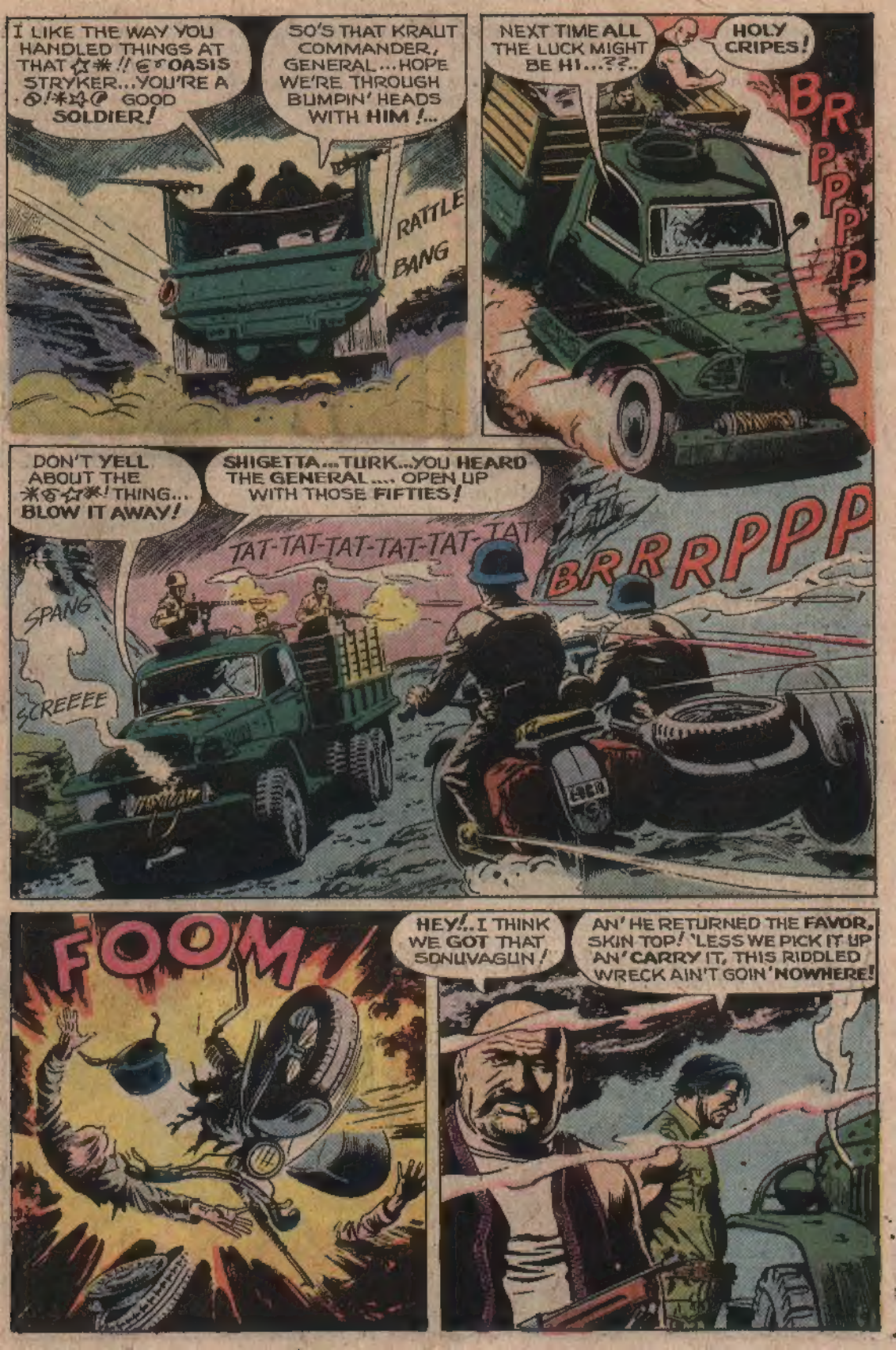
SLOW DOWN!

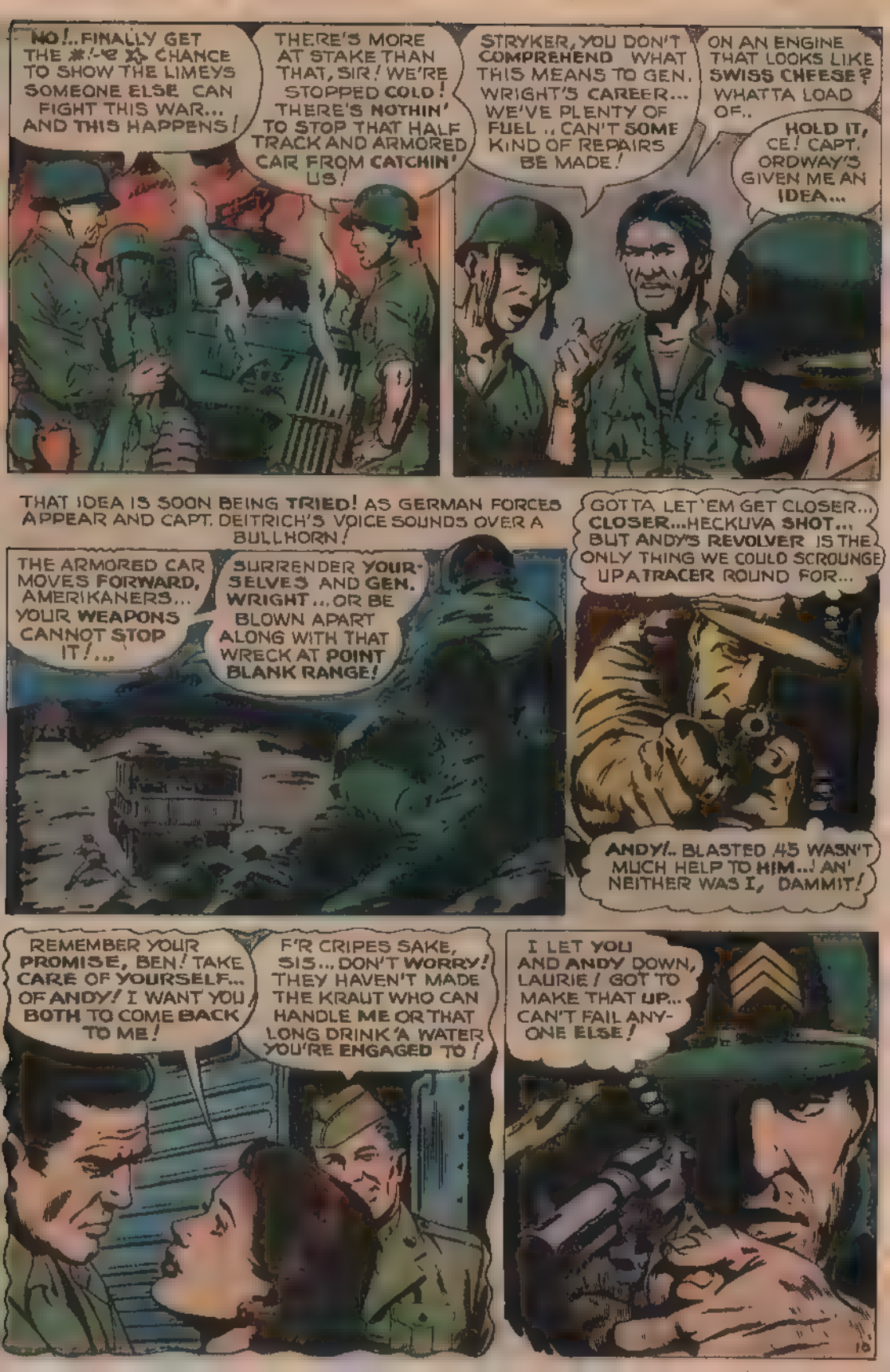
WHY .WHAT'S WRONG?

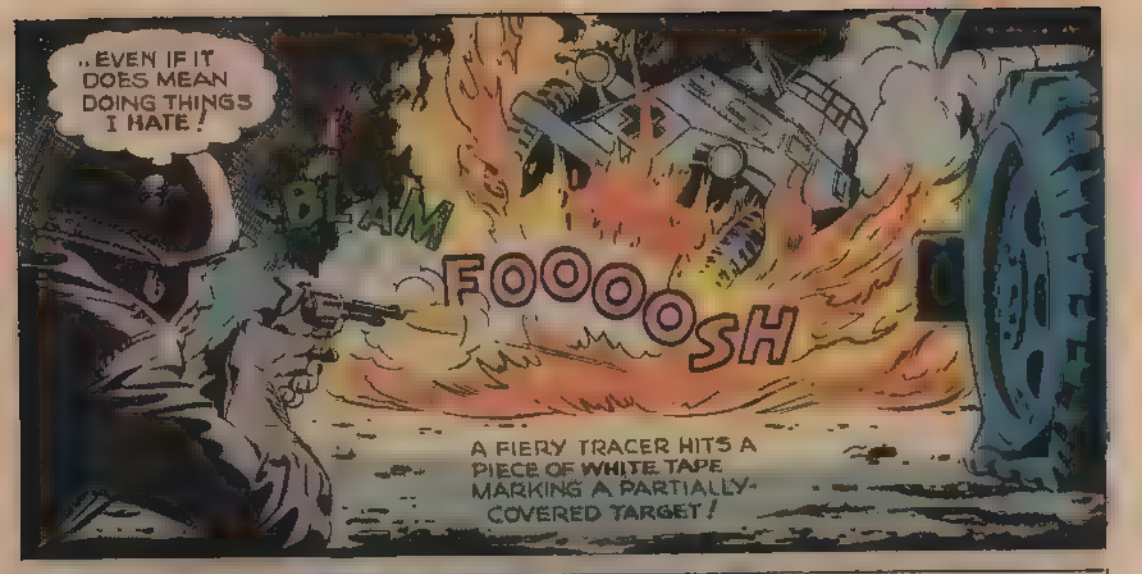
JUST DO AS I TELL YOU!

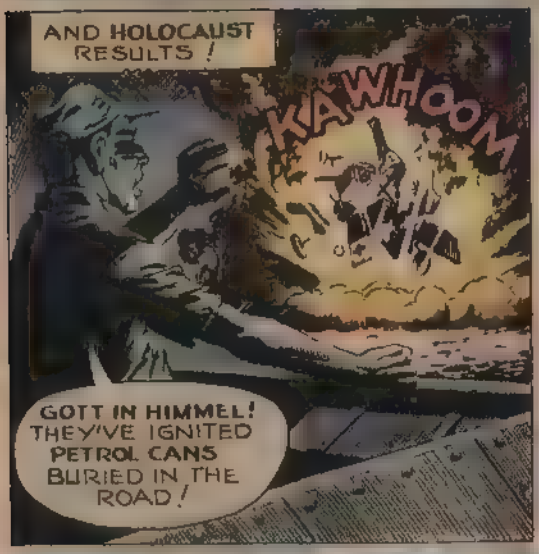
ACH!...THEY STOP! SOMETHING IS WRONG, CAPTAIN!
STAY DOWN, HOLZER! THEY AREN'T FOOLS! NO DOUBT THEY CHECK THE OASIS WITH BINOCULARS!
SEE! NOW THEY MOVE AGAIN!
BUT SO FAST, HERR DEITRICH! YOU CAN HARDLY SEE THEM FOR THE DUST!
DUST CANNOT STOP BULLETS, SERGEANT!.. HIT THEM WITH A WARNING BURST, THEN...
DONNERWETTER! VAS IST LOS??
POW POW
TAT-TAT-TAT-TAT
THERE IS ONLY A DRIVER... THE OTHERS ARE GONE!...
GOTT! IF THEY HAVE LEFT THE TRUCK, IT CAN ONLY BE TO...
RAT-TAT-TAT-T
POW POW
THE AMERIKANERS HAVE CIRCLED THE OASIS...
RETREAT TO OUR VEHICLES... SCHNELL...SCHNELL!!
BLAM

LOOKS LIKE WE SPOILED THE KRAUTS' PICNIC, SARGE! HOW'D YOU KNOW THEY WERE HERE?
NO BIRDS! THEY'RE ALWAYS AROUND TREES AND WATER, DUKE! NOISE OF OUR TRUCK SHOULD'VE SENT SOME OF THEM FLYIN'... UNLESS SOMETHING ELSE HAD ALREADY SCARED 'EM!
OKAY, HUSTLE NOW! GET AS MUCH WATER AS YOU CAN AS FAST AS YOU CAN!
THAT ARMORED CAR MOUNTED A CANNON! COULD BE THEY'LL RETREAT BEYOND RANGE OF OUR WEAPONS..
WHOOM
BAM
... AND RAIN DOWN INCOMIN' MAIL HOPING TO CATCH US DRINKIN' INSTEAD'A DUCKIN'! ...
GET IT IN GEAR, ICE!
IMPRESSIVE! THE AMERIKANER SERGEANT SEEMS TO HAVE ANTICIPATED MY COUNTER-STROKE! THE TRUCK ESCAPES OUR BARRAGE!...
WHAM
HE MUST REALIZE ALSO THAT IT WILL BE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR OUR TWO HEAVIER VEHICLES TO OVERTAKE THEM NOW, SIR!
JAWOHL, HOLZER... BUT HE CANNOT KNOW WE HAVE A THIRD VEHICLE!...
... AND THAT WILL DELIVER THE WELL-PROTECTED GEN. WRIGHT INTO OUR HANDS!


I LIKE THE WAY YOU HANDLED THINGS AT THAT ☆✱!! ☺ OASIS STRYKER...YOU'RE A ☺!✱☆@ GOOD SOLDIER!
SO'S THAT KRAUT COMMANDER, GENERAL...HOPE WE'RE THROUGH BUMPIN' HEADS WITH HIM !...
RATTLE
BANG
NEXT TIME ALL THE LUCK MIGHT BE HI...??..
HOLY CRIPES!
BRPPPP
DON'T YELL ABOUT THE ✱☺☆✱! THING... BLOW IT AWAY!
SHIGETTA...TURK...YOU HEARD THE GENERAL.... OPEN UP WITH THOSE FIFTIES!
TAT-TAT-TAT-TAT-TAT-TAT
BRRRPPPP
SPANG
SCREEEE
FOOM
HEY!..I THINK WE GOT THAT SONUVAGUN!
AN' HE RETURNED THE FAVOR, SKIN TOP! 'LESS WE PICK IT UP AN' CARRY IT, THIS RIDDLED WRECK AIN'T GOIN' NOWHERE!


NO!.. FINALLY GET THE ✱!-@ ✡ CHANCE TO SHOW THE LIMEYS SOMEONE ELSE CAN FIGHT THIS WAR... AND THIS HAPPENS!
THERE'S MORE AT STAKE THAN THAT, SIR! WE'RE STOPPED COLD! THERE'S NOTHIN' TO STOP THAT HALF TRACK AND ARMORED CAR FROM CATCHIN' US!
STRYKER, YOU DON'T COMPREHEND WHAT THIS MEANS TO GEN. WRIGHT'S CAREER... WE'VE PLENTY OF FUEL .. CAN'T SOME KIND OF REPAIRS BE MADE!
ON AN ENGINE THAT LOOKS LIKE SWISS CHEESE? WHATTA LOAD OF..
HOLD IT, CE! CAPT. ORDWAY'S GIVEN ME AN IDEA...
THAT IDEA IS SOON BEING TRIED! AS GERMAN FORCES APPEAR AND CAPT. DEITRICH'S VOICE SOUNDS OVER A BULLHORN!
THE ARMORED CAR MOVES FORWARD, AMERIKANERS... YOUR WEAPONS CANNOT STOP IT!...
SURRENDER YOURSELVES AND GEN. WRIGHT... OR BE BLOWN APART ALONG WITH THAT WRECK AT POINT BLANK RANGE!
GOTTA LET 'EM GET CLOSER... CLOSER... HECKUVA SHOT... BUT ANDY'S REVOLVER IS THE ONLY THING WE COULD SCROUNGE UP A TRACER ROUND FOR...
ANDY!.. BLASTED .45 WASN'T MUCH HELP TO HIM...! AN' NEITHER WAS I, DAMMIT!
REMEMBER YOUR PROMISE, BEN! TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF... OF ANDY! I WANT YOU BOTH TO COME BACK TO ME!
F'R CRIPES SAKE, SIS... DON'T WORRY! THEY HAVEN'T MADE THE KRAUT WHO CAN HANDLE ME OR THAT LONG DRINK 'A WATER YOU'RE ENGAGED TO!
I LET YOU AND ANDY DOWN, LAURIE! GOT TO MAKE THAT UP... CAN'T FAIL ANYONE ELSE!


..EVEN IF IT DOES MEAN DOING THINGS I HATE!
BLAM
FOOOOOSH
A FIERY TRACER HITS A PIECE OF WHITE TAPE MARKING A PARTIALLY-COVERED TARGET!


AND HOLOCAUST RESULTS!
KAWHOOM
GOTT IN HIMMEL! THEY'VE IGNITED PETROL CANS BURIED IN THE ROAD!

HIT 'EM HARD! THAT HALF-TRACK'S OUR RIDE HOME!
BRAT
TAT-TAT-TAT
POW POW!
HOLZER... ACH....

EEEAAHHH
HUNTERS AND HUNTED...GERMANS AND AMERICANS... ALL BLEND INTO ONE VICIOUSLY BATTLING MASS! THEY SEEM TO FIGHT FOR A
BUT THE TRUE PRIZE IS REALLY SURVIVAL!!

THUNK
C'MON, STRYKER! YOU'RE TOO ABLE A LEADER TO HAVE A SOFT CENTER...
...AND YOUR MEN ARE JUST WHAT EVERY WAR NEEDS! ✯☆€!!% GOOD KILLERS! BE PROUD, BOY...YOU GOT A 6✯☆!!@! DEATH SQUAD!
WITH DAWN, VICTOR AND VANQUISHED ARE IRREVOCABLY DECIDED!
I SURE HOPE STEALING SOME GLORY FROM THE BRITISH IS WORTH ALL THIS
DEATH DOESN'T MAKE ME PROUD-- IT SICKENS ME! BUT I RECKON YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT, SIR!
AND, BY NOON, A GERMAN HALF TRACK ROARS INTO THE AMERICAN HQ.
MAJOR! WHERE IS EVERYBODY? I'VE GOT INFO TO THROW THE KRAUTS ON THEIR TAILS!
UH...NATURALLY YOU COULDN'T HAVE HEARD, SIR, B-BUT THERE'S A BIG COUNTER-ATTACK ALREADY IN PROGRESS...
SIDU RASHID! RIGHT WHERE WE STARTED FROM! THE WHOLE TRIP WAS FOR NOTHING.. NOTHING!
WHAT'RE YOU SAYIN', SARGE? IT CINCHED YOUR THREE STRIPES AND OUR PARDONS THAT'S NOT FOR NOTHIN' AT ALL!
SEEMS THE BRITISH FOUND A HOLE IN THE GERMAN ADVANCE AT SIDU RASHID! THEY USED IT TO TURN THE TABLES, SIR
BUT, NEXT ISSUE, THE GRIM PRICE FOR PARDONS AND PROMOTIONS IS DRIVEN HOME TO SGT STRYKER'S... DEATH SQUAD!

What's Happening With ATLAS

In our last issue, we introduced you to **THE PHOENIX, GRIM GHOST, IRONJAW, TARGITT, WULF THE BARBARIAN, THE SCORPION, PLANET OF VAMPIRES, THE COUGAR, THE BRUTE** and **MORLOCK 2001**. And if that's not mouthful enough for you, try adding **WEIRD SUSPENSE, TIGER-MAN, BLAZING BATTLE TALES** to your Atlas literary lexicon!

WEIRD SUSPENSE is a show case magazine that, every issue will feature a new and unique horror hero. The first collector's edition features **THE TARANTULA**, beastial do-gooder who nightly turns from man to human tarantula. You'll really dig this spider man! Brought to you by artist **Pat Boyette** and scripter **Michael Fleisher**.

TIGER-MAN is the most powerful character in the Atlas line-up. His steel claws and fang jaws make him the most formidable nemesis to crime our world has ever known! His daring exploits are recounted by **Ernie Colon**, artist, and **Gabriel Levy**, writer.

BLAZING BATTLE TALES is a potpourri of the world's most thrilling war stories. Written by **John Albano**, and starring **SGT. STONE**, the first issue features all new tales of combat. Each and every issue will feature three complete stories. A bargain at 25¢.

So much for the new! The returnees are as follows. In **IRONJAW #2**, our barbaric hero battles an army of giant bears in the enemy king's arena. And this issue marks the debut of **Pablo Marcos** as artist on the book. **PHOENIX** meets an alien invasion head on in the exciting conclusion of his two-part origin story. The battleground is New York City, and the climax will leave you breathless!

MORLOCK meets a kindly scientist in our plant man's second issue, but learns that appearances can be deceiving! Futuristic adventure in the year 2001. Meanwhile back in 1930, **THE SCORPION** battles [illegible] years later. **THE COUGAR** combats an age-old mystery that in space things get on the **PLANET OF VAMPIRES** issue #2 features a confrontation between astronauts, savages, and vampires with a memorable and highly explosive climax.

Back on earth **THE BRUTE** battles the horror of the reptile men; **THE GRIM GHOST**, on the other hand, tackles a heist on board an ocean liner.

The cocker of the month however, is **WULF THE BARBARIAN** a sword and sorcery epic that ends with a never-to-be-forgotten battle between a fire demon and a creature of water! This, not to mention mountains of sword-play and muscle bending heroics.

But if you think monster slaying is rough try tackling **TARGITT**'s terrain for a day. A mob run drug ring fails before the vigilante's unstoppable thrust, with a climactic battle between submarine and helicopter in Boston Harbor! And while you're in the neighborhood take a look at **THE DESTRUCTOR, POLICE ACTION, WESTERN ADVENTURES, VICKI** (why not?), **SAVAGE COMBAT TALES, TALES OF EVIL**, and **MIDNIGHT MADNESS**. They're on sale now... from **ATLAS**!

And lest we forget, if you dig comics, our black and white magazines are sure to knock you for a loop. **WEIRD TALES OF THE MACABRE** and **DEVILINA** feature an adulterated shock as you like it 64 incredible pages of illustrated terror by such greats as **Leo Summers, Frank Thorne, Jeff Jones** and others. And don't forget **THRILLING ADVENTURE STORIES**, the most exciting comics magazine ever! The first collector's edition is now on sale, featuring the art of **Russ Heath, Leo Summers, Frank Thorne, Jack Sparling**, and **Ernie Colon**. Between them all, we've got classic tales of dinosaurs, super-heroes, and warfare.

And for you monster freaks there's **MOVIE MONSTERS #2**, with articles on **2001, A SPACE ODYSSEY, RODAN, PLANET OF THE APES, DRACULA, SUPERMAN, DOC SAVAGE, FRANKENSTEIN, GOLDEN VOYAGE OF SINBAD** and more. Don't miss it!

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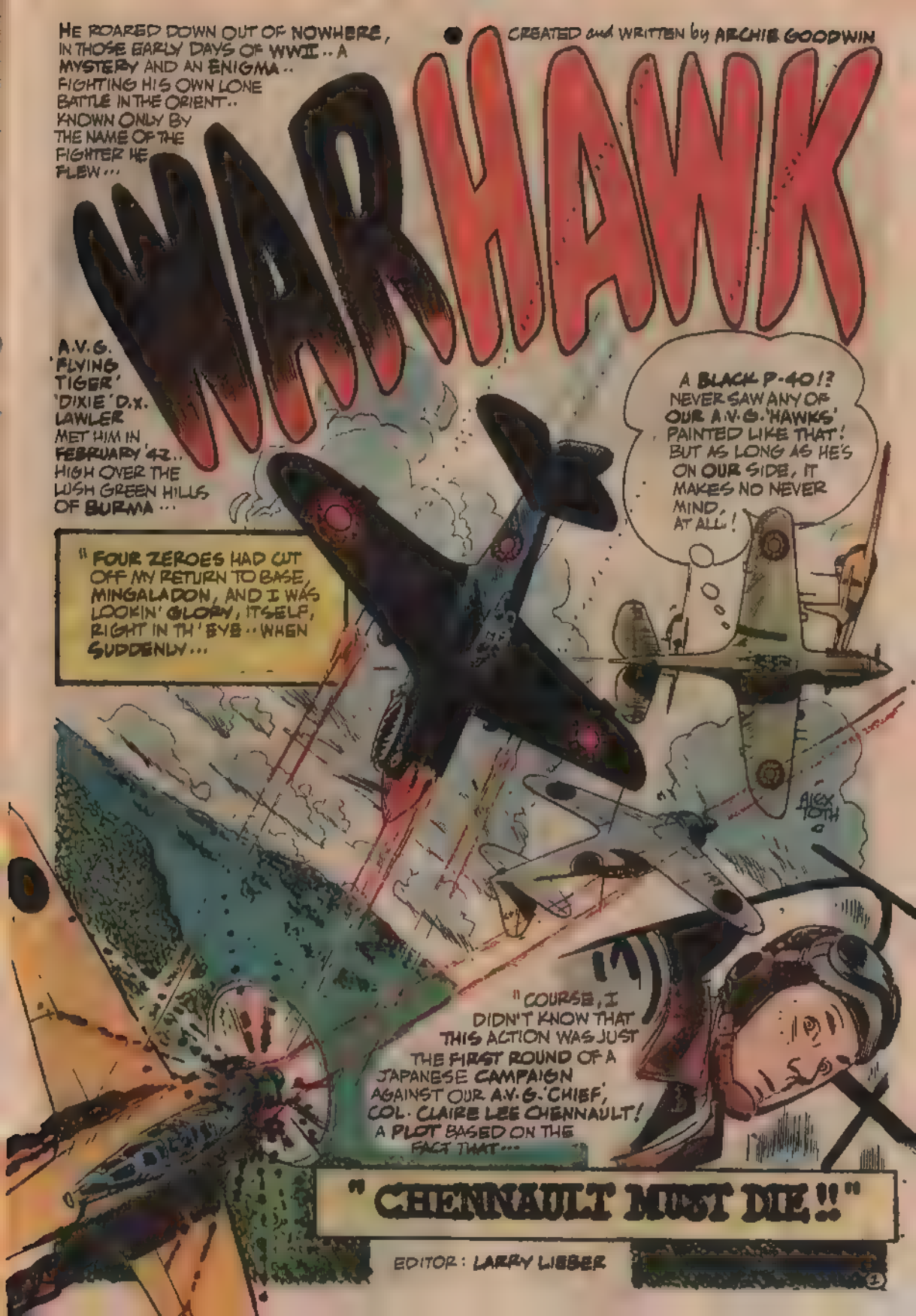
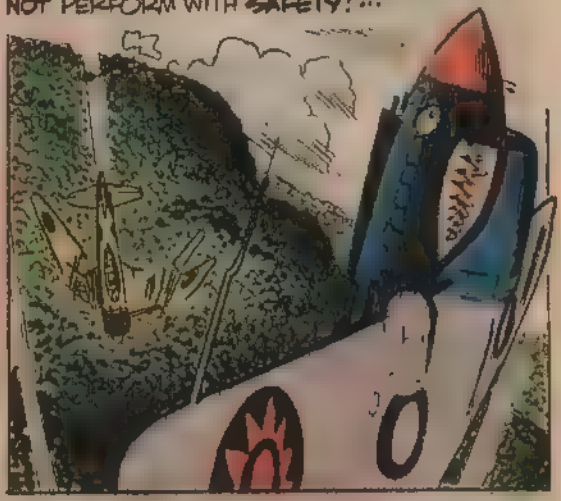

CREATED and WRITTEN by ARCHIE GOODWIN
HE ROARED DOWN OUT OF NOWHERE, IN THOSE EARLY DAYS OF WWII.. A MYSTERY AND AN ENIGMA.. FIGHTING HIS OWN LONE BATTLE IN THE ORIENT.. KNOWN ONLY BY THE NAME OF THE FIGHTER HE FLEW...
WAR HAWK
A.V.G. 'FLYING TIGER' 'DIXIE' D.X. LAWLER MET HIM IN FEBRUARY '42.. HIGH OVER THE LUSH GREEN HILLS OF BURMA...
A BLACK P-40!? NEVER SAW ANY OF OUR A.V.G. 'HAWKS' PAINTED LIKE THAT! BUT AS LONG AS HE'S ON OUR SIDE, IT MAKES NO NEVER MIND, AT ALL!
"FOUR ZEROES HAD CUT OFF MY RETURN TO BASE, MINGALADON, AND I WAS LOOKIN' GLORY, ITSELF, RIGHT IN TH' EYE.. WHEN SUDDENLY...
ALEX TOTH
"COURSE, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT THIS ACTION WAS JUST THE FIRST ROUND OF A JAPANESE CAMPAIGN AGAINST OUR A.V.G. 'CHIEF', COL. CLAIRE LEE CHENNAULT! A PLOT BASED ON THE FACT THAT...
"CHENNAULT MUST DIE!!"
EDITOR: LARRY LIEBER
1

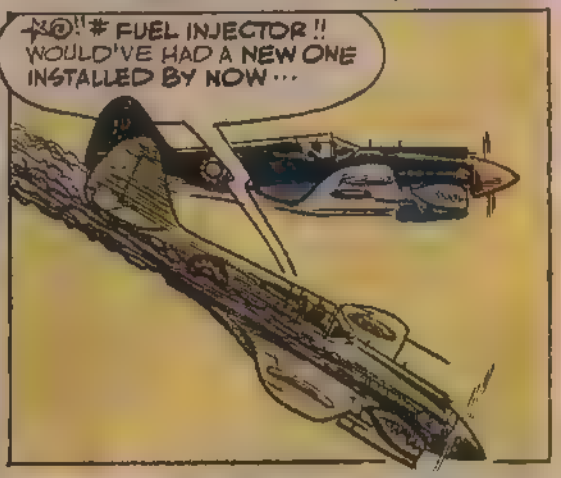
"THIS OL' BOY WAS FLAT OUT GOOD! LIKE OUR 'PAPPY' BOYINGTON OR BOB NEALE! WITH ONE 'ZEKE' DOWN IN FLAMES.. HE SUCKERED HIS SECOND INTO POWER DIVIN' AFTER HIM...

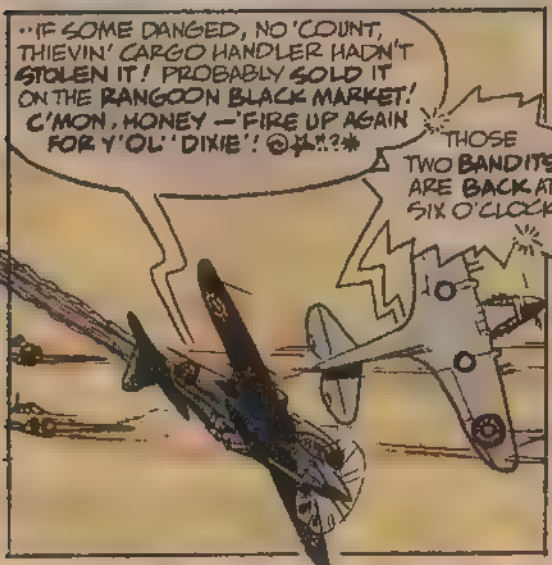
"..WHICH IS JUST ABOUT THE ONLY MANEUVER THOSE FAST BUT FRAGILE ZEROES COULD NOT PERFORM WITH SAFETY!...



"'FORE LONG, HE WAS BACK ... ALONGSIDE...

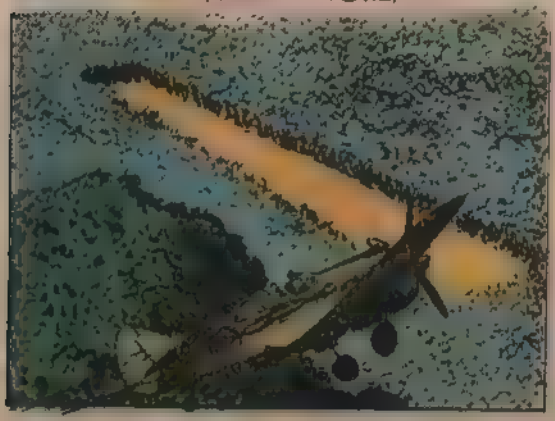
"..NEVER HEARD HIS ANSWER.. 'CAUSE WHAT I DID HEAR WAS MY ENGINE, SPUTTERIN' AN' COUGHIN'.. AN' THEN.. CUTTIN' OUT! DEAD!

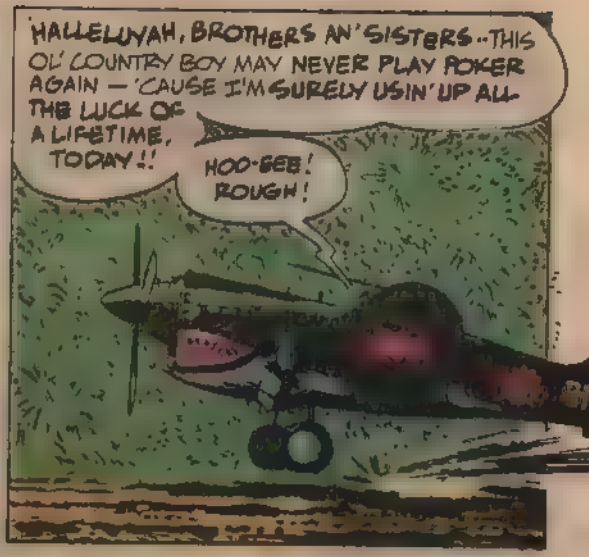




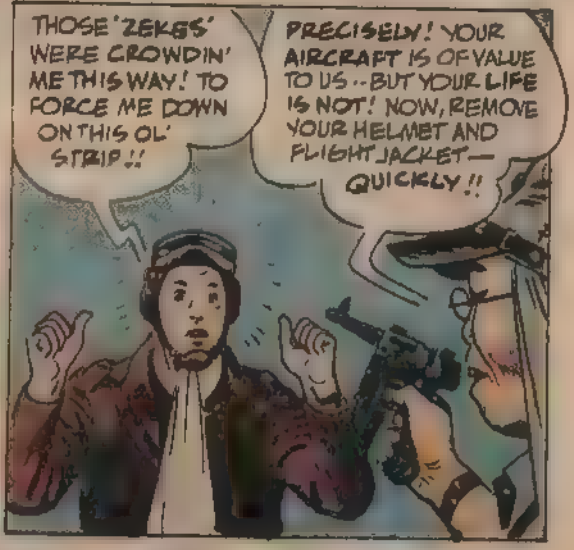
"..MY GUARDIAN ANGEL SNAPROLLED AWAY, HIS EXHAUST STACKS BELCHIN' SMOKE! WITH THE TWO 'ZEKES', SMELLIN' BLOOD, RIGHT AFTER HIM! I'D LOST TOO MUCH ALTITUDE TO BAIL OUT, AND WOULD HAVE TO RIDE 'ER DOWN INTO THAT THICK GREEN JUNGLE RUSHIN' UP AT ME FAST.. ..AND NO PLACE IN IT FOR ME TO LAND!...

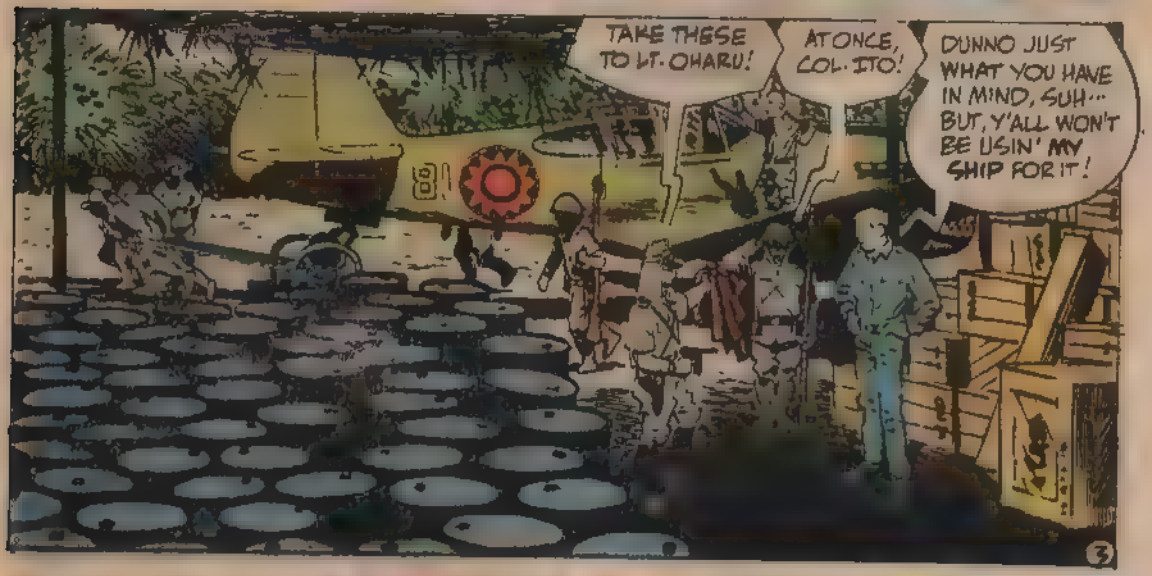
"I FOUGHT A DEAD STICK TO GET HER NOSE UP AN' INTO A GLIDE OVER THE CREST OF A RIDGE UP AHEAD.. AND THEN.. GLORY BE TO SUNDAY, I SAW IT! A CLEARING IN THE JUNGLE! A STRIP JUST ABOUT LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO SUNFISH' 'ER DOWN INTO IT, WITHOUT POWER...





"AN' THAT'S WHEN I LEARNED JUST HOW LITTLE 'LUCK' HAD TO DO WITH THAT STRIP BEIN' THERE!





AHH·· THE FAULTY FUEL INJECTOR ··? A FALSE HOPE! OUR MECHANICS CAN MAKE APT TEMPORARY REPAIRS ··· APT ENOUGH FOR OUR PURPOSE, YANKEE!

WHA-?! WHY, Y'ALL WERE MONITORIN' MY RADIO CHANNEL··!

CERTAINLY! FOR A MONTH OUR MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE HAS PLANNED FOR THIS EVENT···

··FOR A WEEK, MY UNIT HAS STRIVED TO SNARE ONE OF YOUR PLANES···!

HEY! YOUR MEN ARE STUFFIN' HIGH EXPLOSIVES ABOARD 'ER, COLONEL!

SHE'LL BE A FLYIN' BOMB, SUH! WOULD TAKE A MADMAN TO GET INTO THAT COCKPIT ··NOW!

NO! MERELY ONE WILLING TO DIE FOR HIS EMPEROR!···

··BY OUR CODE OF BUSHIDO, WE ARE ALL PREPARED TO DO THAT! — AND FOR THE PRIVILIGE OF DESTROYING YOUR LEADER··· CHENNAULT!!

··MANY WERE EAGER! BUT LT. OHARU HERE ·IS OUR VERY BEST PILOT, AND WILL SUCCEED IN HIS MISSION—!!

"I BROKE OUT IN A COLD SWEAT AS I REMEMBERED THAT CHENNAULT WAS GOING TO BE AT MINGALADON ALL THIS WEEK!···

HA!

"..AN' A FAMILIAR OL' P-40··MINE ·APPARENTLY LIMPIN' HOME, WOULDN'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE IN GETTIN' THROUGH··AN' PLOWIN' MY SHIP RIGHT ON DOWN INTO THE FIELD'S OPERATIONS SHED WHERE CHENNAULT WOULD BE···UNLESS I ACTED FAST!···

WAK

"IN MY MIND, I SAW MYSELF BLAZIN' AWAY WITH THAT NAMBU PISTOL, EXPLODIN' MY P-40, AND SAVIN' TH' DAY! BUT, IN MY MIND, I DIDN'T SEE THAT GUARD!...

BOK!

!THE GLEAM OF HIS BAYONET PROMISED TO BE THE LAST SIGHT I'D EVER SEE, FOR SURE!

"WHEN SUDDENLY...

KAPOW!

LT. OHARU! TO THE PLANE! TAKE OFF AT ONCE!!...

POW

HAI!

WE'RE UNDER GUERRILA ATTACK!!

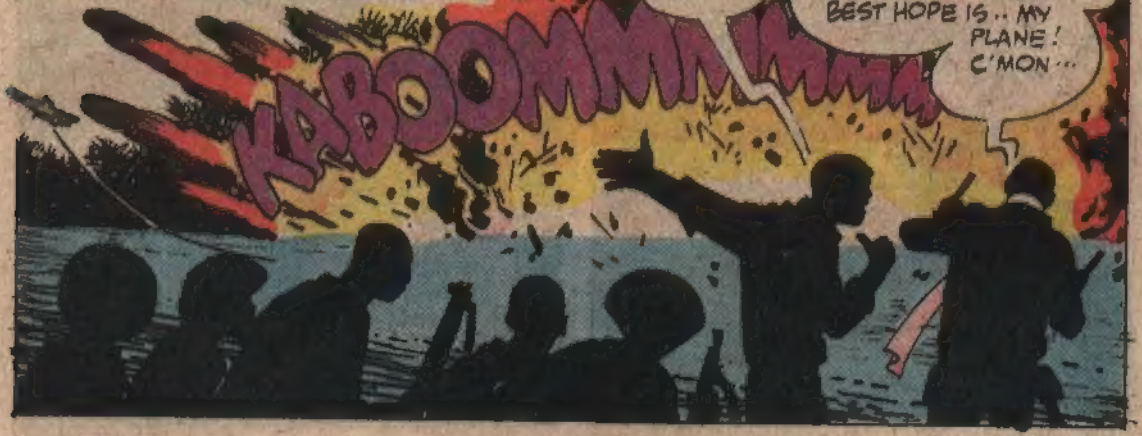
"..AN' RIGHT IN TH' THICK OF TH' WHOLE HOORAW, WAS MY GUARDIAN ANGEL..OR HIS GHOST!?

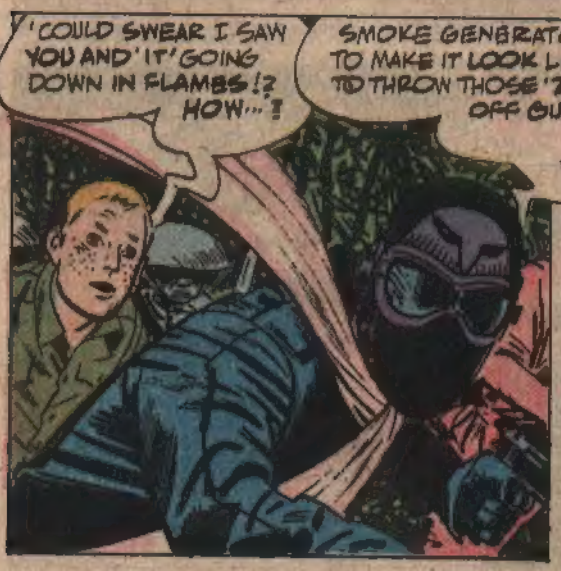
KRAK

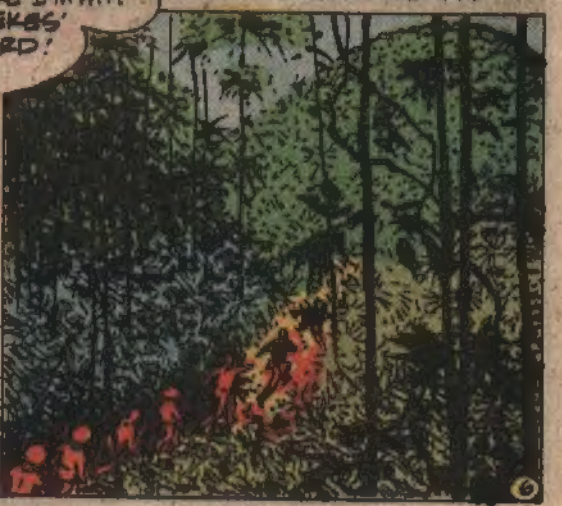
KAPOW

"I HIGHTAILED IT TOWARD HIM AND HIS BAND UNDER THEIR COVER FIRE!...

"..BUT A BARRIER SUDDENLY ERUPTED 'TWEEN US AN' TH' ESCAPIN' P-40! COL. ITO SAID HE AND HIS MEN WERE "PREPARED TO DIE"... AN' NOW, THEY PROVED IT.. BY SETTING OFF THEIR OWN FUEL AND EXPLOSIVE RESERVES!







What's Happening With ATLAS

In our last issue, we introduced you to **THE PHOENIX**, **GRIM GHOST**, **IRONJAW**, **TARGITT**, **WULF THE BARBARIAN**, **THE SCORPION**, **PLANET OF VAMPIRES**, **THE COUGAR**, **THE BRUTE**, and **MORLOCK 2001**. And if that's not mouthful enough for you, try adding **WEIRD SUSPENSE**, **TIGER-MAN**, **BLAZING BATTLE TALES** to your Atlas literary lexicon!

WEIRD SUSPENSE is a showcase magazine that, every issue will feature a new and unique horror hero. The first collector's edition features **THE TARANTULA**, a beastial do-gooder who nightly turns from man to human tarantula. You'll really dig this spider man! Brought to you by artist **Pat Boyette** and scripter **Michael Fleisher**.

TIGER-MAN is the most powerful character in the Atlas line-up. His steel claws and feline jaws make him the most formidable nemesis to crime our world has ever known! His daring exploits are recounted by **Ernie Colon**, artist, and **Gabriel Levy**, writer.

BLAZING BATTLE TALES is a potpourri of the world's most thrilling war stories. Written by **John Albano**, and starring **SGT. STONE**, the first issue features all-new tales of combat. Each and every issue will feature three complete stories. A bargain at 25¢!

So much for the new! The returnees are as follows. In **IRONJAW #2**, our barbaric hero battles an army of giant bears in the enemy king's arena. And this issue marks the debut of **Pablo Marcos** as artist on the book. **PHOENIX** meets an alien invasion head-on in the exciting conclusion of his two-part origin story. The battleground is New York City, and the climax will leave you breathless!

MORLOCK meets a kindly scientist in our plant man's second issue, but learns that appearances can be deceiving! Futuristic adventure in the year 2001! Meanwhile, back in 1930, **THE SCORPION** battles voodoo and indestructible combies, while forty years later, **THE COUGAR** combats an age-old vampire. Out in space, things get hot on the **PLANET OF VAMPIRES** issue #2 features a confrontation between astronauts, savages, and vampires, with a memorable and highly explosive climax.

Back on earth, **THE BRUTE** battles the horror of the reptile men; **THE GRIM GHOST**, on the other hand, tackles a heist on board an ocean liner.

The corker of the month, however, is **WULF THE BARBARIAN**, a sword and sorcery epic that ends with a never-to-be-forgotten battle between a fire demon and a creature of water! This, not to mention mountains of sword-play and muscle-bending heroics.

But if you think monster slaying is rough, try tackling **TARGITT**'s terrain for a day. A mob-run drug ring falls before the vigilante's unstoppable thrust, with a climactic battle between submarine and helicopter in Boston Harbor! And while you're in the neighborhood, take a look at **THE DESTRUCTOR**, **POLICE ACTION**, **WESTERN ADVENTURES**, **VICKI** (why not?), **SAVAGE COMBAT TALES**, **TALES OF EVIL**, and **MIDNIGHT MADNESS**. They're on sale now . . . from **ATLAS**!

And lest we forget: If you dig comics, our black and white magazines are sure to knock you for a loop. **WEIRD TALES OF THE MACABRE** and **DEVILINA** feature unadulterated shock as you like it. 64 incredible pages of illustrated terror by such greats as **Leo Summers**, **Frank Thorne**, **Jeff Jones**, and others. And don't forget **THRILLING ADVENTURE STORIES**, the most exciting comics magazine ever! The first collector's edition is now on sale, featuring the art of **Russ Heath**, **Leo Summers**, **Frank Thorne**, **Jack Sparling**, and **Ernie Colon**. Between them all, we've got classic tales of dinosaurs, super-heroes, and warfare.

And for you monster freaks, there's **MOVIE MONSTERS #2**, with articles on **2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY**, **RODAN**, **PLANET OF THE APES**, **DRACULA**, **SUPERMAN**, **DOC SAVAGE**, **FRANKENSTEIN**, **GOLDEN VOYAGE OF SINBAD**, and more. Don't miss it!

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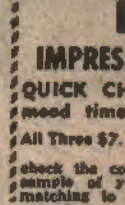

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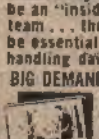

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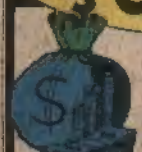

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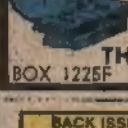

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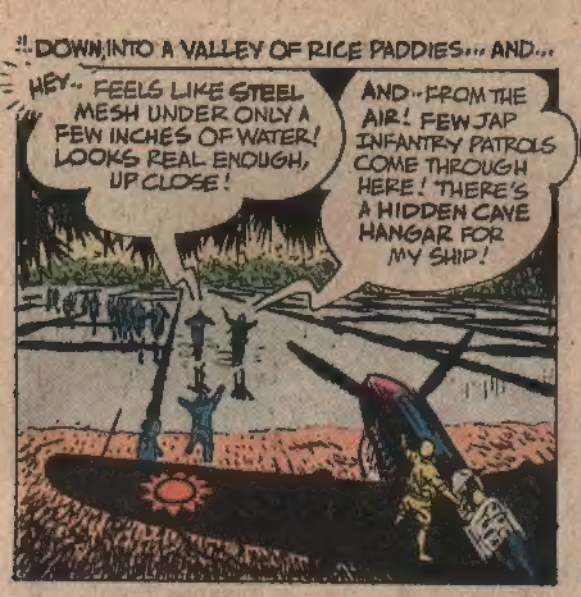
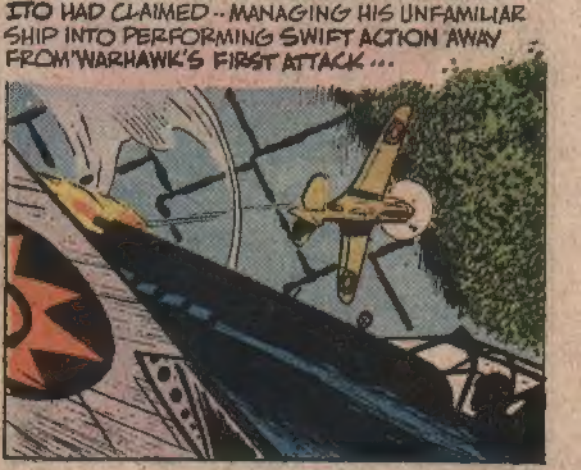
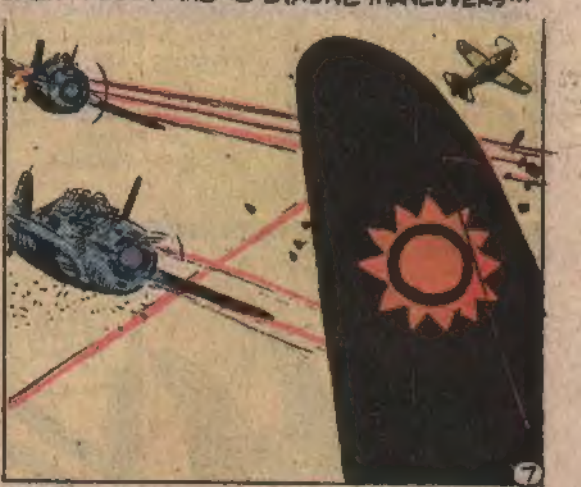

DOWN, INTO A VALLEY OF RICE PADDIES... AND...
HEY.. FEELS LIKE STEEL MESH UNDER ONLY A FEW INCHES OF WATER! LOOKS REAL ENOUGH, UP CLOSE!
AND.. FROM THE AIR! FEW JAP INFANTRY PATROLS COME THROUGH HERE! THERE'S A HIDDEN CAVE HANGAR FOR MY SHIP!

THEN, HE WAS OFF.. RACING AGAINST TIME.. AND DEATH.. FIGHTING A NEAR IMPOSSIBLE LEAD!...
QUITE A FELLA, PAK THIEU —
ANY IDEA WHO HE IS?
A FRIEND.. TO US, HERE.. AND TO ALL OTHER GUERILLAS FIGHTING OUR COMMON ENEMY! THAT IS ENOUGH!

I HEARD TELL, LATER, THAT MY P-40 WAS SEEN APPROACHIN' RANGOON AND MINGALADON FIELD, WHEN ANOTHER.. UNIDENTIFIED P-40 ATTACKED IT!...

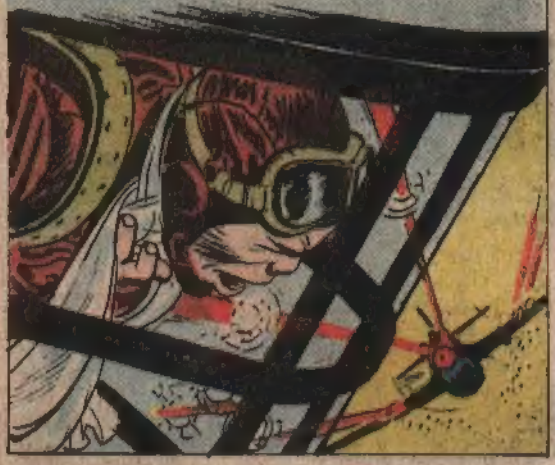

THE WEIGHT OF THE EXPLOSIVES IN MY P-40 CUT DOWN ITS SPEED AND MANEUVERABILITY.. BUT LT. OHARU WAS AS GOOD A PILOT AS COL. ITO HAD CLAIMED.. MANAGING HIS UNFAMILIAR SHIP INTO PERFORMING SWIFT ACTION AWAY FROM WARHAWK'S FIRST ATTACK...

UNTIL A FLIGHT OF R.A.F. BREWSTER 'BUFFALOES' CAME TO THE RESCUE OF WHAT SEEMED TO BE AN ALLY IN TROUBLE...


THE BLACK P-40 WAS HELPLESSLY HAMMERED BY OPONENTS IT COULDN'T.. AND WOULDN'T FIRE UPON.. RESORTING TO EVASIVE MANEUVERS...

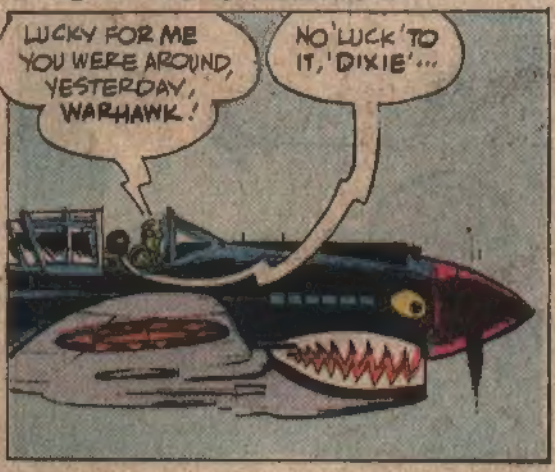
!.. FREE AND CLEAR NOW, LT. OHARU DOVE! HIS TARGET, THE FIELD OPERATIONS SHACK BELOW...

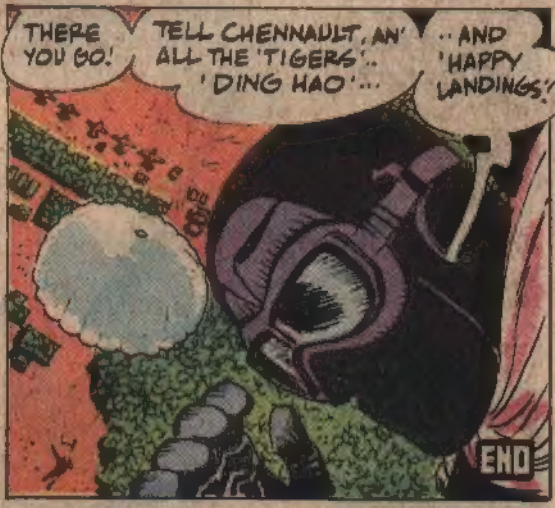
!.. BUT.. AT 3,000 FEET.. HIS DIVE, HIS LIFE, AND PROMISE OF GLORY, CAME TO A SCREECHIN' HALT UNDER THE WITHERING GUNFIRE OF THAT BLACK P-40!...



!.. WARHAWK'S "SMOKE GENERATOR" STUNT HAD WORKED, AGAIN, ON THEM 'BUFFALOES'.. GIVIN' HIM TIME TO NAIL OHARU, AFTER ALL...

!.. LATER, WARHAWK RETURNED FOR ME.. TO FLY ME BACK TO MY BASE, WHERE I'D BAIL OUT.. GIVING HIM TIME TO SKEEDADDLE...





NEXT ISSUE: "BEHIND THE MASK!"